

More Essential Commodities through Fair Price Shops

3306. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide more essential commodities for consumers through Fair Price Shop;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the sections of society who are likely to be benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) A scheme titled "Sarvapriya" has been launched in July, 2000. It envisages distribution of eleven selected commodities of daily use viz., Arhar Dal, Gram Dal, Malka Red, Urad Whole, Salt, Tea, Toilet Soaps, Detergent cake, Exercise Note Books, Edible oil and Tooth Paste. The National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF) which is the apex body of consumer cooperative in the country, has been nominated as the nodal agency to implement the scheme which will supply quality goods. The State Food and Civil Supplies Departments would monitor the distribution arrangements in their States. The State Governments have the option to choose the items as per their requirement/preferences. The items will be distributed on no profit no loss basis in suitable consumer packs through the existing PDS outlets, retails unit of Civil Supplies Corporations and Consumer Cooperatives or other agencies as may be decided by the respective State Governments.

(c) The scheme is intended to provide relief to all consumers especially those belonging to the low income group as well as to those belonging to the weaker sections of the society, in rural and urban areas.

Sale of Old Stocks of Wheat and Rice

3307. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Committee in the Food Corporation of India to expedite sale of old stocks of wheat and rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has made any recommendation in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that State Governments are not lifting the allocated quota of wheat and rice; and

(e) if so, the measures proposed by Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) A Committee, known as High Level Committee is existing in Food Corporation of India. This Committee consists of Chairman, FCI, Managing Director, FCI, Economic Adviser, Department of Economic Affairs, a representative from Rly. Board and Joint Secretary (Policy) of Deptt. of Food and Public Distribution. The High Level Committee is authorised to consider all aspects, including rates, agreements, contracts etc. to dispose of such stocks of wheat and rice which are not issued under Public Distribution System (PDS).

(c) The Committee holds its meetings from time to time and takes decisions to dispose of these stocks.

(d) The total lifting of foodgrains has decreased during the months of April, May and June, 2000 as compared to the corresponding months of previous year as given in the Statement (*See below*). The lifting of rice against BPL allocation is showing an increasing trend as compared to the previous year in these months.

(e) With a view to liquidate stocks of wheat and rice, Government has reduced the Central Issue Price (CIP) of wheat and rice for APL and BPL families from 25.7.2000 as under:

S.No.	Commodity	Rate per qtl.	
		BPL	APL
1	Wheat	Rs. 415/-	Rs. 830/-
2	Rice		
	(i) Common	Rs. 565/-	
	(ii) Grade-A	Rs. 565/-	Rs. 1130/-

The Issue prices of FCI wheat under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) have been revised downwards and are as under:

Zone	Rate per qtl.	Effective from
North	Rs. 650/-	9.8.2000
West	Rs. 724/-	11.8.2000
East	Rs. 736/-	11.8.2000
South	Rs. 743/-	11.8.2000

Statement

Allotment and offtake of Rice and Wheat under TPDS during April, May and June months during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 years.

Fig. In lakh MTs
(Provisional/operational data)

Year: 2000-2001											
Month	Wheat				Rice						
	Allotment		Lifting		Allotment		Lifting				
	BPL	APL	Total		BPL	APL	Total		BPL	APL	Total
April, 2000	5.29	3.46	8.75	0.29	1.86	6.56	5.48	12.04	3.71	2.08	5.79
May, 2000	5.29	3.56	8.85	1.93	2.17	6.56	5.91	12.47	4.87	1.37	6.24
June, 2000	5.29	3.56	8.85	2.49	2.68	6.56	5.91	12.47	4.97	1.02	5.96
Year: 1999-2000											
April, 1999	2.62	5.99	8.61	1.86	1.84	3.30	7.28	10.58	2.65	5.55	8.20
May, 1999	2.64	5.73	8.37	2.20	1.80	3.28	7.45	10.73	3.11	5.78	8.89
June, 1999	2.65	5.82	8.47	2.16	1.92	3.30	7.50	10.80	3.06	5.76	8.82